

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 28, 2003

LB 48, 92

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful and I do raise the call. We're back to discussion of the original amendment. Senator Chambers. I'm sorry, Senator Landis' light is on next.

SENATOR LANDIS: Question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on AM2081? All in favor of the motion vote aye, those opposed nay. Motion before the body is the question has been called. Voting on ceasing debate on AM2081. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on AM2081 to LB 48.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if a commission is abolished, there is very little likelihood that it ever will be resuscitated. If this bill in some form is not enacted into law, even if it does no more than revive those statutes that LB 92 wiped out, the Rural Development Commission is over. You will have no agency recognized by the state as a rural development council. That's why the Governor could submit a grant that undermined what those other people did. If that other group had been recognized as the council, they are the ones that the U.S. State...USDA would have dealt with, and they would have rejected the Governor's application as being inappropriately submitted. It would be like my submitting a grant. But since there will be no agency, the Governor can submit grant applications. But if there is no agency, what is the need? If that money should somehow come to the Governor's hands, because there is no commission, it will go to the Department of Economic Development. How many people on this floor from the rural areas can tell me concrete things that the Department of Economic Development have done that have stimulated the rural economy, any program to create jobs? One of the things that I did was...that turned out to be ill-advised, based on the way I was trounced when the vote came,